

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking entitled Restoring Internet Freedom WC Docket No. 17-108

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed rule entitled Restoring Internet Freedom, whereby FCC Chairman Ajit Pai proposes to “to end the utility-style regulatory approach that gives government control of the Internet and to restore the market-based policies necessary to preserve the future of Internet Freedom, and to reverse the decline in infrastructure investment, innovation, and options for consumers put into motion by the FCC in 2015.” I believe this proposed rule would concentrate control of the internet to a small group of companies, resulting in higher prices for consumers, a significant reduction in innovation, and be an inhibitor to economic growth.

Without the internet neutrality rules the FCC put in place in 2015, the incumbent service providers who control access to the internet would be able to favor their own services, to the point of being able to throttle innovative services, at the cost of consumers. The ability of internet service providers to choose winners and losers would directly inhibit the ability of new businesses to reach a customer base on equal footing with incumbent providers and large content providers. All businesses should be able to compete with incumbents on the innovation and quality of the services provided, not on their ability to pay incumbents to be on equal footing. The title of the rule is deceptive, as passage would limit the freedom of consumers to select the best products and services to meet their needs, and instead take away that freedom and hand it to a limited number of incumbent internet providers.

The Restoring Internet Freedom Rule does not meet any of FCC’s stated strategic goals. It would not promote economic growth and national leadership, but would instead limit the opportunities for innovation and stifle industry-changing developments. The Rule would not protect public interest goals, as it would result in higher prices and limited choices for consumers. The Restoring Internet Freedom Rule would not make networks work for everyone, but would instead consolidate control of the internet to a few powerful companies. This Rule would also not promote operational excellence for the FCC, as the public has already shown great support for net neutrality rules, and this Rule and rule making process is counter to the already spoken will of the people.

I urge you to maintain the current net neutrality rules and do not allow the Restoring Internet Freedom Rule to go into effect.